(b) whether there is any move to change the criteria for defining poverty line during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) how many people have crossed the poverty line, with rural-urban break up, at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) There has been no change in the criteria for defining poverty line during the last ten years.

(b) Planning Commission has constituted an 'Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor' to review the methodology of poverty estimation. The Group is yet to finalise its recommendations in this regard.

(c) The number of people below poverty line for the years 1983-84 and 1987-88 for which estimates have been made are given below:

Number of Persons below Poverty Line (*in lakhs*)

	Rural	Urban	Combined
1983-84	2215.00	495·00	2710·00
1987-88	1918.22	405 82	2324·04

Privatisation of sick Public Sector Undertakings

3074. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 97 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th August 1990 and state:

(a) what are the details of sick public sector undertakings; and

(b) whether Government have any proposal for privatisation of Sick Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) The details of central public sector enterprises which sustained net loss during 1988-89 and 1987-88 are given in the Statement 7B at pages from 187 to 189 of Volume-1 of Public Enterprises Survey 1988-89 placed on the Table of the House on 15th March, 1990.

(b) No, Sir.

Representations against Atomic Power Stations by Scientists/Environmental Groups

3075. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government give consideration to the representations against Atomic Power Stations from Scientists and Environmental groups in the country;

(b) if, so, the details of the recent controversy in Kerala between a scientist and AEC in this regard;

(c) what were the objections raised by the scientist against establishing an atomic power station;

(d) what is the view of AEC in this matter;

(e) whether AEC has ever agreed with any objections or opinions from those outside the Government and the Atomic Energy Establishment; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?